UNITED NATIONS

General Assembly

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

Official Records

FOURTH COMMITTEE
6th meeting
held on
Wednesday, 21 October 1992
at 3 p.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 6th MEETING

Chairman:	Mr. KEMBER (Vice-Chairman)	(New Zealand)
later:	Mr. MELENDEZ	(El Salvador)

CONTENTS

AGENDA ITEM 18: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES (continued)*

AGENDA ITEM 98: INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES TRANSMITTED UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS (continued)*

AGENDA ITEM 99: ACTIVITIES OF THOSE FOREIGN ECONOMIC AND OTHER INTERESTS WHICH IMPEDE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES IN TERRITORIES UNDER COLONIAL DOMINATION AND EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE COLONIALISM, APARTHEID AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA (continued)*

AGENDA ITEM 100: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES BY THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS (continued)*

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued)*

AGENDA ITEM 101: OFFERS BY MEMBER STATES OF STUDY AND TRAINING FACILITIES FOR INHABITANTS OF NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES (continued)*

* Items considered together.

This record is subject to correction.
Corrections should be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned *within one week of the date of publication* to the Chief of the Official Records Editing Section, Room DC2-750, 2 United Nations Plaza, and incorporated in a copy of the record.

Corrections will be issued after the end of the session, in a separate corrigendum for each Committee.

92-57138 6164S (E)

Distr. GENERAL
A/C.4/47/SR.6
9 November 1992
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 18: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES (continued) (A/47/23 (Parts II to VII), A/47/225, 391, 506; A/C.4/47/L.2; A/AC.109/1097-1106, 1108-1113, 1116-1120, 1123-1125; S/23299, S/24040 and S/24464)

AGENDA ITEM 98: INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES TRANSMITTED UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS (continued) (A/47/120 and 189; A/47/204-S/23887; A/47/240 and 473)

AGENDA ITEM 99: ACTIVITIES OF THOSE FOREIGN ECONOMIC AND OTHER INTERESTS WHICH IMPEDE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES IN TERRITORIES UNDER COLONIAL DOMINATION AND EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE COLONIALISM, APARTHEID AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA (continued) (A/47/23 (Part III (chap. V))

AGENDA ITEM 100: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES BY THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS (continued) (A/47/23 (Part IV (chap. VII)), A/47/281 and Add.1; A/AC.109/L.1785)

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued) (A/47/3 (chaps. I and V, sect. B); E/1992/85)

AGENDA ITEM 101: OFFERS BY MEMBER STATES OF STUDY AND TRAINING FACILITIES FOR INHABITANTS OF NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES (continued) (A/47/486)

1. Mr. MERIMEE (France) said that for more than four years New Caledonia had been experiencing a profoundly changed economic, political and social climate which could not have emerged if the spirit of openness had not prevailed over confrontation and violence. The dialogue between the parties had led to the signing of the Matignon and Oudinot Agreements which were based on three main principles: the right to self-determination, decentralization, land redistribution, and the economic and social development of the Territory.

2. With regard to the first principle, the Agreement provided that in 1998 the inhabitants of New Caledonia would exercise their right to self-determination in a ballot in which only voters domiciled for at least 10 months in the Territory could take part. With regard to decentralization, the three provinces of New Caledonia were now administered by their own elected representatives, their services were functioning, and each of them was deeply involved in its development work. The results were very encouraging with regard to economic and social development; the number of jobs had risen sharply, especially in the less developed northern provinces and the Loyalty Islands, for the benefit of which major infrastructure works had been undertaken in various sectors.

(Mr. Merimee, France)

3. With respect to land redistribution, the Rural and Land Development Agency (ADRAF) had allocated 62,500 hectares, with 80 per cent of the land going to Melanesians. A programme to provide start-up assistance for farmers had been established.

4. As far as training was concerned, the early results were also very encouraging, and the pass rates in secondary and vocational education examinations had risen considerably over the four years in the northern provinces and the Loyalty Islands. The programme for the training of 400 Melanesian administrators was another example of the importance attached to training.

5. The fostering of the cultural identity of the Melanesian community was the responsibility of the Kanak Culture Development Agency, and the establishment of the Jean-Marie Tjibaou cultural centre would give the Agency a new impetus. Accordingly, the balance sheet of the first four years of the implementation of the Matignon Agreements was generaly positive. Nevertheless, the French Government was continuing its efforts to strengthen the ongoing process and to respond to the Territory's special problems, in particular the problems of young people, the towns, the diversification of private enterprise sectors, and the encouragement of the role of custom in Caledonian society.

6. The French delegation noted with satisfaction that the draft resolution on New Caledonia submitted to the Committee took into account the positive developments in the situation in the Territory. It would therefore not have to object to the text or request a vote on it. However, France maintained its reservations as to the competence of the United Nations to consider the question of New Caledonia. Article 73 of the Charter entrusted exclusive competence for the self-determination of Non-Self-Governing Territories to the administering Powers. The question of New Caledonia fell exclusively within French sovereignty, and his delegation could not therefore join in the adoption of a United Nations text on the question.

7. The Matignon Agreements had profoundly changed the relations of New Caledonia with the countries of the region, where it was now regarded as a fully fledged partner. The French authorities thought it extremely important that the Territory should take its place in the community of the South Pacific, whose support was a valuable source of encouragement, and they would continue to promote the development of exchanges and cooperation between New Caledonia and its neighbours.

8. After more than four years the spirit of the Matignon and Oudinot Agreements remained unaltered, and each of the partners was persevering with their implementation. The French authorities were determined to ensure that in 1998 the inhabitants of New Caledonia would be able to exercise their right to self-determination under the best possible conditions.

9. Mr. SINGH (Nepal) said that the world was entering a new phase of human history. The resurgence of human rights and democratic values was really encouraging. The twentieth century had made major strides in the decolonization process. His delegation paid a tribute to the decisive role of the United Nations in that process and to the efforts made by the Special Committee on decolonization to mobilize international public opinion against colonialism.

10. Nevertheless, some vestiges of colonialism remained in various parts of the world, and the administering Powers were obliged under the Charter to create the necessary conditions to enable Non-Self-Governing Territories to decide their political status and economic future. They must abide by the provisions of the Charter and the relevant resolutions and facilitate political education programmes in the Territories in order to foster awareness among the people and enable them to exercise their right to self-determination. His delegation urged the administering Powers to abolish all discriminatory and unjust regulations imposed in the Territories. The United Nations must conduct negotiations to expedite the decolonization process in the Territories which were not yet independent, so that the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism would achieve its objective in full by the end of the century.

11. In South Africa, the anti-apartheid struggle was not yet over and the goal of a free, democratic and non-racial South Africa had not yet materialized. The outbreak of violence had impeded the negotiation process. His delegation urged the parties concerned to end the violence and create an atmosphere conducive to the resumption of negotiations. It again called on the South African Government to take immediate steps to implement the proposals of the United Nations for bringing a speedy end to the apartheid system and unreservedly supported the role of the United Nations which, in the post-cold war era, had become more important than ever, in the resolution of the South African problem.

12. Mr. BASALAMAH (Yemen) expressed satisfaction that, since the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, many countries had acceded to independence. In view of that fact, his delegation was anxious to see the Palestinian people exercise its right of return. Israel should obey all the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council, including those calling for its withdrawal from southern Lebanon and the Syrian Golan Heights.

13. For the new world order to be credible, the provisions of the United Nations Charter and the resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council must be implemented non-selectively and should not be interpreted in accordance with the interests of one or another State.

14. Mr. Melandez (El Salvador) took the Chair.

15. Mr. WAYARABI (Indonesia) said that the United Nations had played a vital role in the eradication of colonialism in the world, as its current composition showed. For more than 30 years, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples had symbolized the hope of all those languishing under the colonial yoke.

16. While the Organization could take pride in its successes to date, there remained Non-Self-Governing Territories which had not yet exercised their right to self-determination. Most of them were small island territories with limited resources, whose fragile economies and ecosystems, particular vulnerability to natural disasters and heavy dependence on the administering Powers were causes of concern to the international community. Those countries, to which the Declaration was equally applicable, needed the assistance of the United Nations to overcome their problems and meet their aspirations. It was incumbent on the administering Powers to assist them in considering the options open to them.

17. Certain foreign interests continued to thwart decolonization efforts. In view of the relationship that existed between colonialism and alien economic exploitation, the administering Powers must ensure that all economic activities were conducted with a view to strengthening the economic autonomy of the Territories while safeguarding the interests of the indigenous peoples.

18. His country hoped that the important changes that had taken place in the world would also contribute to the elimination, by the end of the century, of the last traces of colonialism - a goal that had been reiterated by the non-aligned countries in September 1992 at Jakarta.

19. His delegation welcomed the resumption of the dialogue on South Africa, but maintained that, in spite of the current optimism, the international community must continue to give full support to the black population in its struggle against apartheid and maintain pressure on South Africa through sanctions as long as that was required. It regretted that some countries and transnational corporations were making new investments in South Africa and condemned those who supplied the South African regime with arms and nuclear technology. It was also important for oil-producing and exporting countries to terminate the supply of petroleum products to the South African Government.

20. His delegation was pleased that the Special Committee had given favourable consideration to the recommendations of the Working Group dealing with the rationalization of the Special Committee's work and particularly those concerning the revitalization of the Committee and the streamlining of its resolutions, working methods, agenda and list of territories.

21. His delegation called on the Committee to redouble its efforts to ensure that political freedom was accompanied by all the benefits of economic security, justice and equity.

22. Mr. SY (Senegal) noted that the work of the United Nations for the freeing of the colonial peoples since the adoption in 1960 of resolution 1514 (XV), entitled "Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples", had promoted the accession to national sovereignty of a large number of States and the principle of the universality of the United Nations.

23. The Special Committee on decolonization had also made praiseworthy efforts for the implementation of that Declaration as a result of its improved and more efficient working methods and the strict fulfilment of its mandate. Nevertheless, not all the results expected had yet been achieved, and the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Elimination of Colonialism emphasized the need to complete the decolonization process by the year 2000. From that point of view, the regional seminars on decolonization questions and the activities supported by the subregional organizations of the Pacific and the Caribbean, as well as those undertaken by the specialized agencies, were a part of the Plan of Action. Within that framework, special attention should be given to the question of foreign economic investments in the new States and the Non-Self-Governing Territories and greater support should be given to their economic and social development programmes, with due regard for the need to protect their natural resources and their social and economic environment.

24. The international community should continue and strengthen its joint action to fulfil the hopes of the peoples of the Territories not yet independent. In that spirit, the Secretary-General should be encouraged to persevere in his efforts to find better means of settling the questions put before the Organization, particularly those relating to Western Sahara, New Caledonia and the Maldive islands.

25. In the case of apartheid, the international community should continue to help establish the security conditions in South Africa which would promote the resumption of negotiations and the advent of a free, democratic, unitary and non-racial society.

26. The unprecedented atmosphere of détente in today's world, characterized by a common desire to promote the advent of peace, security and democracy, imposed on the international community a duty to ensure that all peoples might realize their aspirations to independence, sovereignty and freedom and thus be enabled to participate effectively in the common management of world affairs and in the advent of an era of international cooperation to the benefit of all.

27. Mr. BATA'ANISIA (Solomon Islands), speaking on behalf of the nine member countries of the South Pacific Forum that were Members of the United Nations - Australia, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Republic of the Marshall Islands, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Western Samoa, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands - stressed that decolonization had a particular place in the deliberations of the South Pacific Forum, given that South Pacific islands figured prominently among the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories.

(Mr. Bata'anisia, Solomon Islands)

28. Forum Heads of Government, at their meeting earlier in the year in Honiara (Solomon Islands), had paid special attention to the Territory of New Caledonia. They had noted the positive measures being pursued in New Caledonia by the French authorities, in cooperation with all sectors of the population, to promote equitable political, economic and social development so as to provide a framework for the Territory's peaceful evolution to self-determination. The Forum had been encouraged by the continuing progress made in implementation of the Matignon Accords and had noted the importance of the forthcoming mid-term review of the Accords in maintaining progress towards the decolonization of the Territory.

29. The Forum had expressed the hope that the French authorities and others would continue to expand their assistance for education and training opportunities for the Kanak population in order to enable all New Caledonians to exercise their right to self-determination. Besides equitable economic and social development, transparency in preparation of the electoral rolls and continued dialogue among all parties in New Caledonia were important in ensuring an act of self-determination in which all options, including independence, were open. The Forum had reiterated the hope that the French authorities would facilitate regular visits by missions from the United Nations.

30. The Forum had welcomed the increasing contacts between New Caledonia and the countries of the Forum. New Caledonia was an integral part of the South Pacific region, and the strengthening of cooperation between Forum members and New Caledonia would make a positive contribution to the process of political and economic rebalancing in the Territory.

31. The Forum had agreed that its Ministerial Committee on New Caledonia had a continuing role to play in liaison between the Forum and the Territory, including work towards the formulation of questions to be asked during the referendum in 1998. The Committee's work would be particularly valuable after the mid-term review of the Matignon Accords. It was the Forum's hope that the French and territorial authorities would continue to facilitate the work of the Committee.

32. In conclusion, he trusted that the draft resolution on New Caledonia, the text of which represented the fruit of wide consultation undertaken in a spirit of moderation and compromise, would, as in previous years, be adopted by consensus.

33. Mr. DZAKHAEV (Russian Federation) said that the current session of the General Assembly was taking place in a remarkable context, at a time when, as the Secretary-General had so aptly remarked in his report, "the old international order has been swept away by a tidal wave of democratization". Such a reawakening of democracy offered unprecedented prospects for the attainment of the principles set forth in the Charter.

(Mr. Dzakhaev, Russian Federation)

34. The United Nations had played and would continue to play a central role in the process of decolonization, and the proclamation of the period 1990-2000 as the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism would facilitate the mobilization of a concerted effort on the part of the international community in that important endeavour and the acceleration of the attainment by colonial peoples of the right to self-determination.

35. The Charter obliged the administering Powers to contribute to the well-being of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories and to promote their political, economic and social development. Given the prospect, for the first time in the history of humanity, of establishing a world economic space that would ensure a decent standard of living for all peoples, including those of Non-Self-Governing Territories, the problem of their socio-economic development was of particular importance.

36. Various kinds of foreign assistance could make a contribution to that process, but it was important to regulate and control the activities of foreign economic and other interests in colonial territories to ensure that they did not jeopardize the interests and rights of their peoples, including their right to freely develop their natural resources. Such activities must also contribute to the integration of Non-Self-Governing Territories into the world economy.

37. Advantage must also be taken of the positive developments in the world climate to dismantle the military bases established in Non-Self-Governing Territories and to prevent their use for nuclear tests and the deployment of nuclear weapons.

38. The work of the organs of the United Nations responsible for decolonization had already progressed significantly in the new international climate. At the summer session, in particular, the Special Committee had adopted a whole series of important decisions intended to assist the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in exercising their inalienable right to self-determination. The Special Committee on decolonization had improved the effectiveness of its work and, in that connection, special tribute must be paid to the efforts made by the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Loria, the Permanent Representative of Papua New Guinea.

39. But the Special Committee had unfortunately not yet adapted to the new climate and its discussions were still taking place in a spirit of confrontation and futile rhetoric which tarnished its work. Its decisions still included provisions which were not within its mandate. If the Special Committee continued to ignore the new realities, to work in a spirit of confrontation and to trespass on the spheres of competence of other United Nations organs, his delegation would be compelled to redefine its position towards its work.

(Mr. Dzakhaev, Russian Federation)

40. The organs of the United Nations responsible for decolonization must above all seek to join their endeavours to those of the administering Powers in strengthening the Organization's potential to eliminate as quickly as possible the vestiges of colonialism, taking into account the will of the peoples of the Territories concerned.

41. Mr. ARDHAOUI (Tunisia) said that it was the responsibility of all States fully to implement United Nations resolutions concerning the right to self-determination and independence of peoples still under foreign administration and observed that the fulfilment of that right was one of the essential conditions for guaranteeing and ensuring respect for human rights. The United Nations should do its utmost to eliminate every vestige of colonialism by the end of the decade.

42. The 18 Non-Self-Governing Territories, most of which were small islands in Asia or the Pacific, faced special problems on account of their small size, low population, isolation, fragile economies and vulnerability to natural disasters. Accordingly, the United Nations and the other international organizations, together with the administering Powers, should multiply their efforts to ensure the harmonious development of those Territories' own economic resources, which alone could permit them effectively to exercise their right to self-determination.

43. Throughout the past year, the Special Committee on decolonization and the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance had endeavoured to take into account the remarks made by a number of delegations concerning the wording of the resolutions adopted on decolonization, the question of discourteous remarks about certain countries and the need for the Special Committee's methods of work to evolve. That Committee and its Subcommittee had endeavoured to rationalize their work and to restore full cooperation with the administering Powers; in that regard, they would have appreciated the presence of the latter during their meetings so that they could make their views known. They hoped that it would prove possible to develop a constructive dialogue in the future which would make it possible to find the best means of ensuring the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the Organization.

44. The need for better knowledge of the situation in each of the Territories made it imperative for the Committee to be able to send periodic visiting missions to the Territories in order to be better informed about the situation on the spot. Many petitioners who had come to address the Committee had expressed the desire of the peoples of the Territories for a permanent dialogue with the United Nations and the Special Committee. He was convinced that the misunderstandings in that regard would be ironed out and that visiting missions would be allowed access to the Territories. The indigenous population groups should also be able to make themselves heard before United Nations bodies and, for that purpose, should be provided with financial

(Mr. Ardhaoui, Tunisia)

assistance to allow their representatives to travel to New York or to take part in the seminars organized on decolonization.

45. The presence of military bases and facilities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories was an obstacle to the exercise of the right of self-determination. They should be evacuated and no plans should be made to establish new bases. Furthermore, the administering Powers should refrain from using the Territories or allowing them to be used for acts of war or intervention against other States.

46. The situation in South Africa remained disturbing, in spite of the changes that had taken place, and peace and security were still threatened by the aftermath of apartheid. Acts of violence should be renounced, and the South African regime should move to establish a favourable climate for peaceful negotiations and for the broader exercise of freedoms by abrogating the last discriminatory laws, promoting the introduction of a transitional Government and establishing an elected constituent assembly, whose aim would be to bring into being a democratic and non-racial society. The Special Committee still had a role to play in that regard, in so far as the roots of apartheid lay in colonization.

47. Mr. CHINVANNO (Thailand) said that the positive development of the international situation would facilitate the process of decolonization. Thailand would continue to work with other like-minded countries that supported the principles of equal rights and self-determination in order to achieve the objectives of the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism. Accordingly, it commended the Special Committee for its contribution to removing the vestiges of colonialism. Thailand urged the United Nations and its specialized agencies to strengthen their measures and programmes of assistance to the peoples of the remaining 18 Non-Self-Governing Territories and urged the administering Powers to continue to adhere strictly to Article 73 of the Charter.

48. Thailand strongly believed that education and human resource development were important elements in the process of decolonization. Accordingly, the Government of Thailand had provided assistance to several developing countries, as well as to Non-Self-Governing Territories so as to enable them to achieve a level of development that would ensure economic independence after they had exercised their right to self-determination.

49. Recent developments in South Africa were encouraging; important steps had been taken towards a negotiated settlement. Since, on 18 March 1992, two thirds of the white population had voted in favour of dismantling apartheid, there was hope that the end of that regime might be in sight. His delegation fully supported the efforts of the United Nations and all parties concerned in the ongoing negotiations.

(Mr. Chinvanno, Thailand)

50. On the question of the political status of Palau, his delegation hoped that that Pacific island and the United States of America would reach an agreement in order fully to attain the objectives of the Trusteeship Agreement. Such an achievement would complete the work of the Trusteeship Council, and it was an opportune moment for Member States to discuss seriously the question of the Council's future role.

51. Mr. KEMBER (New Zealand) said that it was desirable to keep in mind that the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories did not fit the classic colonial mould. Although in certain Territories, expression of the desire for self-determination and independence must continue to be the focus of attention by the General Assembly, in most of the smaller Territories, special difficulties of size, economy and geographic isolation required a similarly unique response. The Special Committee had recognized that fact in its consolidated text on 10 of those Territories, while maintaining that such factors could not serve as a pretext to delay the speedy exercise by those peoples of their right to self-determination. None the less, it was for the people of those Territories to decide how and when to exercise that right. Accordingly, New Zealand welcomed the report of the Secretary-General on the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism (A/46/634/Rev.1) but considered that calling for the organization of referendums on self-determination in each of the Non-Self-Governing Territories before the end of the current decade was inconsistent with the right of the peoples of those Territories to decide how and when to exercise their right to self-determination.

52. New Zealand was well aware of its obligations as an administering Power but believed that it was doubtful that Territories of 60, or even 1,600 people would desire independence. Other than independence, resolution 1541 (XV) presented two additional options, free association and integration. That resolution stipulated also that those options should result in a free and voluntary choice by the peoples concerned and that in the case of integration, the people should have the capacity to make a responsible choice through democratic processes.

53. New Zealand was conscious of the need to lay proper economic and political foundations in preparation for self-determination, as the report of the recent Decolonization Seminar held in Grenada (A/AC.109/1114) admirably pointed out. The report said that the administering Powers, the international community generally and the specialized agencies should all take the steps necessary to ensure the sustained and balanced development of the economies of the Non-Self-Governing Territories but that the administering Powers should not exercise excessive control lest it constitute an obstacle to the self-determination process. In order to ensure a proper balance, there was a real need to encourage non-exploitative foreign investment and support for the Territories. New Zealand was especially alert to the negative aspects of foreign economic activity, such as investment that was insensitive to indigenous culture, drug trafficking or activities of an environmentally

(Mr. Kember, New Zealand)

damaging kind. That was New Zealand's approach, not only to Tokelau, the Non-Self-Governing Territory under its administration, but also, more broadly, to other relevant items on the agenda.

54. Environmental concerns were uppermost in the minds of the people of Tokelau, and its leaders had called on the industrialized nations to curb activities that contributed to global warming and were therefore a great danger for the people of the Territory. They had commended the Government of France for its decision to suspend nuclear testing on Muroroa atoll. In the political context, the people of Tokelau and the New Zealand Government had been working together to enhance the power of executive and legislative institutions in the Territory, but the leaders and people of Tokelau had asked to pursue a change in the status of the Territory at a slower pace, as economic progress and the development of an internal political framework took priority.

55. New Zealand supported the United Nations initiative for Western Sahara, in which the Secretary-General personally played an important role, as set out in detail in his report (A/47/506). It hoped that the parties would reach an understanding regarding the organization of the referendum on self-determination. His Government supported draft resolution A/C.4/47/L.2 submitted on that question by the Chairman of the Fourth Committee.

56. With respect to New Caledonia, he fully endorsed the statement made by the representative of the Solomon Islands on behalf of the States members of the South Pacific Forum. The attitude of the various parties was very encouraging, and his delegation would be interested in the results of the mid-term review of the Matignon Accords, as it was the one process that offered the best prospects for the further economic and political development of New Caledonia in the preparatory stage leading up to the exercise of its right of self-determination in 1998.

57. The New Zealand delegation was particularly pleased to note that the recommendations that it had made in 1991 - to rationalize the work of the Fourth Committee and the Special Political Committee by encouraging greater participation by the specialized agencies and by holding a single general debate on all items - had borne fruit. Nevertheless, more remained to be done. For instance, it was regrettable that the Special Committee's reports and recommended draft resolutions continued to contain outdated terms. While resolutions concerning individual Territories were more consistent with contemporary situations, the same could not be said of the resolutions concerning foreign economic interests and the specialized agencies and the draft decision on military activities. Of course, it was right to continue to address the issue of apartheid, but that issue had little relevance to the needs and aspirations of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories. The problem arose in particular with regard to the resolution on the role of specialized agencies, in which South Africa had been referred to quite frequently. It was a matter for concern that support for a resolution

(Mr. Kember, New Zealand)

regarding activities of such great importance for the Non-Self-Governing Territories should decline in support from year to year. The time had come for the Fourth Committee to consider that resolution with an eye towards merging it with the resolution adopted for the first time in 1991, as General Assembly resolution 46/70, so as to send an important signal that the United Nations intended to assist in providing Territories the wherewithal better to exercise their right to self-determination. The New Zealand delegation was ready to offer its help in drafting such a resolution.

58. He welcomed the ongoing rationalization process and believed that it should continue. The time had come for the Fourth Committee to consider the possibility of a new Committee structure. The Committee needed to take action before its work lost the support of the broader United Nations membership; otherwise the losers would be the very Territories whose interests had been entrusted to it.

59. Mr. SÖKMENSÜER (Turkey) recalled that his country had been one of the sponsors of the Declaration on decolonization, whose adoption had been a milestone in achieving the objectives and ideals set forth in the Charter. It was to be hoped that the ending of the cold war and the new international atmosphere of cooperation would help the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination by the end of the century. As with many other items on the international agenda, the problems of decolonization required a new, realistic and constructive approach to reflect the improving nature of international relations.

60. The Fourth Committee should establish constructive cooperation between the administering Powers and the decolonization bodies so that future challenges could be met. The Special Committee on decolonization and the administering Powers should bring to the Fourth Committee the flexibility and creativity of approach that had recently characterized United Nations work in other fields and which should be reflected also in Fourth Committee resolutions. In order to achieve full implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) in the 18 remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, efforts to serve the real interests of the people of those Territories must be redoubled. Turkey, for its part, was ready to contribute actively to the work of the United Nations in that field.

61. Mr. OVALLE (Chile) recalled his country's position that the administering Powers must not only provide the United Nations with all necessary economic, social and statistical data, but also ensure the political, economic and social progress of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories and help them to establish the form of government they had chosen. To that end, the administering Powers must see to it, in particular, that development policies for the Territories were ecologically sound. They must therefore eliminate production and consumption models that were harmful to the environment. Recalling Principle 25 of the Rio Declaration, he emphasized also that those

(Mr. Ovalle, Chile)

Powers must refrain from carrying out nuclear tests and from deploying weapons of mass destruction in the Territories they administered.

62. The Government of Chile was determined to work with the Fourth Committee and the Special Committee on decolonization, in close cooperation with the administering Powers, to eliminate the last vestiges of colonialism by the end of the decade.

63. Ms. DAPUL (Philippines) noted that the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, located predominantly in the Pacific and the Caribbean, were lightly populated island Territories with limited natural resources. The focus of the Committee's deliberations should therefore be on the special circumstances and needs of the inhabitants of those Territories. Continued access to them by visiting missions was a must, so that the United Nations could gather first-hand information and ascertain the wishes and aspirations of their people as to their future status. Securing the cooperation of the administering Powers was also essential, as they were entrusted with educating dependent peoples as to the options available to them and preparing them for the responsibilities of self-determination and independence. her delegation supported the holding of regional seminars to enable the inhabitants of the Territories to express their views. It appreciated the participation of specialized agencies in the Committee's debates on their involvement in the economic and social development of the Territories, which had been useful in arriving at an assessment of conditions in each Territory.

64. On New Caledonia, the Philippines welcomed the measures being pursued by the French authorities to promote equitable political, economic and social development, and took note of the progress made in the implementation of the Matignon Agreement. She hoped that the forthcoming mid-term review of the Agreement would foster the peaceful evolution of New Caledonia towards self-determination. The Philippines welcomed the draft resolution on New Caledonia submitted by the Special Committee on decolonization and hoped that it would again be adopted by consensus.

65. On the subject of Western Sahara, her delegation noted with disappointment the indefinite postponement of the referendum for self-determination, and remained steadfast in its support for the mission of good offices of the Secretary-General and the current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity. The Philippines would continue to support all efforts to reach a final settlement of the matter and to bring peace and stability to Western Sahara, and hoped, therefore, that the draft resolution on Western Sahara would again be adopted by consensus.

66. Mrs. RAKOTONDRAMBOA (Madagascar) said that the problems common to the Non-Self-Governing Territories had in the main been identified, citing their geographical location that made them vulnerable to natural disasters, the fragility of their ecosystems and their very small land area; their lack of qualified personnel, institutional framework and technicians; and their

(Mrs. Rakotondramboa, Madagascar)

inadequate means of transport and communications. All those factors could explain their isolation and economic weakness as well as the migration of local populations and the arrival of immigrants with the blessing of the administering Powers. Such vulnerability, too, could only encourage traffickers of all kinds to engage in illicit activities.

67. In that regard the Special Committee had made recommendations, particularly with respect to the development of the Territories' human resources, the development of highway infrastructure, transport and communications, the diversification of the economy by the promotion of agriculture and agribusiness, and the chance for the inhabitants to develop their marine resources and to keep the profits for themselves. Naturally, such a vast programme would remain a dead letter without the continuous assistance of the international community.

68. On the question of Western Sahara, her delegation noted that the implementation of the settlement plan was being hindered by the intransigence of the parties on the interpretation of the criteria for participation in the referendum. Madagascar therefore wished to reiterate its support for the original plan and to encourage both parties to respect the commitment they had made, to reduce disagreements and to make even-handed concessions so as not to deprive the Saharan people of its right to a free and honest referendum. Madagascar was glad, too, that the United Nations mission was to remain in place to organize a referendum.

69. Her delegation thought that the participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Committee on decolonization, the regular provision of information on the Territories and the arranging of visiting missions were indispensable to the evaluation of the Territories' situation and also to an assessment of how far the Declaration was being implemented.

The meeting rose at 5.25 p.m.

UNITED NATIONS

General Assembly

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

Official Records

FOURTH COMMITTEE
7th meeting
held on
Thursday, 22 October 1992
at 3 p.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 7th MEETING

Chairman:	Mr. MELENDEZ	(El Salvador)
later:	Mr. MWABUWKUTU (Vice-Chairman)	(United Republic of Tanzania)
later:	Mr. KEMBER (Vice-Chairman)	(New Zealand)

CONTENTS

AGENDA ITEM 18: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES (continued)*

AGENDA ITEM 98: INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES TRANSMITTED UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS (continued)*

AGENDA ITEM 99: ACTIVITIES OF THOSE FOREIGN ECONOMIC AND OTHER INTERESTS WHICH IMPEDE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES IN TERRITORIES UNDER COLONIAL DOMINATION AND EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE COLONIALISM, APARTHEID AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA (continued)*

AGENDA ITEM 100: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES BY THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS (continued)*

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued)*

AGENDA ITEM 101: OFFERS BY MEMBER STATES OF STUDY AND TRAINING FACILITIES FOR INHABITANTS OF NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES (continued)*

---

* Items considered together.

This record is subject to correction.
Corrections should be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned *within one week of the date of publication* to the Chief of the Official Records Editing Section, Room DC2-750, 2 United Nations Plaza, and incorporated in a copy of the record.

Corrections will be issued after the end of the session, in a separate corrigendum for each Committee.

92-57174 6170S (E)

Distr. GENERAL
A/C.4/47/SR.7
10 November 1992
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 18: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES (continued) (A/47/23 (Parts II to VII), A/47/225, 391, 506; A/C.4/47/L.2; A/AC.109/1097-1106, 1108-1113, 1116-1120, 1123-1125; S/23299, S/24040 and S/24464)

AGENDA ITEM 98: INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES TRANSMITTED UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS (continued) (A/47/120 and 189; A/47/204-S/23887; A/47/240 and 473)

AGENDA ITEM 99: ACTIVITIES OF THOSE FOREIGN ECONOMIC AND OTHER INTERESTS WHICH IMPEDE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES IN TERRITORIES UNDER COLONIAL DOMINATION AND EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE COLONIALISM, APARTHEID AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA (continued) (A/47/23 (Part III) (chap. V))

AGENDA ITEM 100: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES BY THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS (continued) (A/47/23 (Part IV) (chap. VII), A/47/281 and Add.1; A/AC.109/L.1785)

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued) (A/47/3 (chaps. I and V, sect. B); E/1992/85)

AGENDA ITEM 101: OFFERS BY MEMBER STATES OF STUDY AND TRAINING FACILITIES FOR INHABITANTS OF NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES (continued) (A/47/486)

1. Mr. KPAKPO (Benin) said that the international situation, with the advent of democracy and the ending of the cold war, was encouraging for the whole international community, which must seize every opportunity to guarantee peace and security for all. However, that goal would never be achieved as long as people were still under colonial domination and apartheid had not been eliminated in South Africa.

2. It was regrettable that in his report "An agenda for peace" the Secretary-General had not expressed the view that the present situation constituted a threat to peace. Benin hoped to make a contribution to the further improvement of "An agenda for peace".

3. The current international political atmosphere ought to make it easier for the Special Committee on decolonization to discharge its mandate. The Special Committee had the praiseworthy ability to adapt to new circumstances as it sought the most appropriate solutions to the problems of non-self-governing countries. Benin welcomed the results achieved by the members of the Special Committee and would contribute to the efforts to eliminate colonialism in all its forms by 2000.

(Mr. Kpakpo, Benin)

4. His delegation was aware of the progress and positive changes in South Africa but was worried by the atmosphere of violence which continued to reign there. It urged the parties concerned to come to their senses so that a just solution could be found on the basis of the principle of one man, one vote.

5. With regard to the implementation of the Declaration on decolonization, Benin welcomed the progress achieved through the spirit of dialogue and cooperation shown both by the peoples concerned and by the administering Powers. On the question of Western Sahara, his delegation supported any initiative which would help the current negotitations. It thought the present situation in New Caledonia encouraging.

6. The Fourth Committee and the Special Committee could now do their work in a satisfactory manner. Now that the ending of the cold war had eased East-West tensions, the tone was moderate in statements and documents alike.

7. His delegation invited the administering Powers and the Non-Self-Governing Territories to seize the opportunities now offered to achieve settlements acceptable to all sides, so that the Territories would be able to join the concert of nations by 2000.

8. Mr. BOUE (Cuba) said that, while the atmosphere created by the ending of the cold war had been widely welcomed, new and even more formidable obstacles were impeding the decolonization activities of the United Nations, owing in particular to the lack of cooperation shown by certain big Powers and the changed attitude of other States which had been supporters of the colonial peoples but were now accomplices of the colonial Powers. While there was no point in dwelling on the historic role of the United Nations in the decolonization process, it was nevertheless important to emphasize that the process would not be completed as long as a single people remained under the colonial yoke. It must be pointed out that during the past year there had been no positive developments under the heading of decolonization.

9. The United Nations had the necessary machinery to implement the Plan of Action of the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, but some people sought to subordinate that machinery to the interests of the colonial Powers, thereby harming the colonial peoples. The Special Committee must renew its dialogue with the colonial Powers but could not do so if many of those Powers refused to cooperate with the United Nations decolonization machinery and sometimes used the principle of cooperation as a means of subjecting the Special Committee to a kind of sordid blackmail. The colonial Powers must continue furnishing the Special Committee with information on the Territories under their administration and stop impeding its activities.

10. The argument was heard in some quarters that it was anachronistic nowadays to worry about colonialism and other related problems such as apartheid and even that the Fourth Committee should be abolished. But surely it was colonialism that was an anachronism. At the threshold of a new

(Mr. Boue, Cuba)

millenium, were not the colonial Powers living in yesterday's world? Some time ago the terms "colonial Powers" and "colonial Territories" had disappeared from the vocabulary of the United Nations decolonization organs. It was now a question of "administering Powers" and "Non-Self-Governing Territories". How did the colonial Powers which used to have vast territories in their grip differ from the Powers which now controlled the destinies of nations of every description? Were the colonialism of yesteryear and contemporary colonialism really different? The colonial peoples, whose culture, traditions and way of life had developed down the years, were subjected to an increasingly rapid process of cultural degradation owing to the introduction of alien values.

11. His delegation denounced foreign investments which were impeding the accession of colonial Territories to independence. The colonial Powers must not permit in the Territories any activity which might vitiate the right of indigenous peoples to self-determination. Nor must they establish in the Territories military bases which now, with the ending of the cold war, could serve no purpose, unless they were aimed against other peoples of the third world.

12. Certain Member States were accusing the Special Committee of drafting repetitive resolutions. The reason for any repetitiveness was that, far from being resolved, the situations denounced in the resolutions were deteriorating steadily from year to year. In order for the Special Committee's decisions or resolutions to stop being repetitive, colonial practices would have to be discontinued and active cooperation with the Special Committee established so that resolution 1514 (XV) might be implemented in respect of all colonial Territories.

13. His delegation welcomed the efforts made by the Special Committee to rationalize its work and improve its efficiency. The Committee had considered all the matters brought before it and was putting forward recommendations concerning the small Territories. It had heard a large number of petitioners from Puerto Rico and had reaffirmed that country's right to self-determination and independence. On the subject of Western Sahara, the Committee had supported the settlement plan approved by the Security Council in its resolutions 658 (1990) and 690 (1991).

14. His delegation was ready to continue its efforts in the service of decolonization.

15. Mr. AL-SHA'ER (United Arab Emirates), recalling the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, said that it was the duty of the United Nations to provide all necessary assistance to the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories in order to enable them to exercise their right to self-determination. As for the administering Powers, their duty was to cooperate with the local authorities so that the inhabitants of the Territories might be informed of available choices concerning the status of the Territories.

(Mr. Al-Sha'er, United Arab Emirates)

16. The activities of certain foreign economic interests, and in particular of transnational corporations, amounted to a veritable plundering of the Non-Self-Governing Territories' natural resources and, like military activities, prevented the peoples of the Territories in question from exercising their right to independence and self-determination.

17. On the question of South Africa he said that his country welcomed the meetings taking place between the leaders of the parties to the conflict and supported the efforts being made to reach agreement and to complete the dismantling of the apartheid system. Dissuasive measures should be taken against certain circles which were seeking to undermine the negotiating process by all possible means.

18. The admission of new Members to the United Nations had gone some way towards consolidating the universality of the Organization, but universality would not be complete until all peoples, including the Palestinian people, were able to exercise their right to self-determination.

19. Mr. QAISER (Pakistan) recalled the role played by the United Nations in the decolonization process and said that the movement of peoples towards freedom and independence could be regarded as the greatest political transition in human history. The right to self-determination was a fundamental and inalienable right which could not be denied to any people under any circumstances. His delegation hoped that the Plan of Action of the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism would be implemented in its letter and its spirit.

20. The economic infrastructure and the level of human resource development in Non-Self-Governing Territories were often weak. The fragile character of their economies, often sustained by a single activity linked to the interests of the administering Power, created an overdependence which impeded the movement of those Territories towards independence. It was therefore imperative that their economic base should be broadened and their manpower given appropriate training. The United Nations had a major role to play in that regard. Pakistan was making its own modest contribution to the process of decolonialization by offering scholarships and fellowships to students from a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

21. Recalling the special responsibility of the administering Powers towards the Non-Self-Governing Territories, he said that the Department of Public Information of the United Nations should intensify the dissemination of information on the situation in those Territories.

22. Turning to the situation in South Africa, he noted that some progress had been made towards eliminating apartheid. The outbreak of violence which had disrupted the negotiating process was to be deplored. He exhorted the South African Government to shoulder its responsibility by taking steps to stop

(Mr. Qaiser, Pakistan)

further bloodshed and bring to book those responsible for the massacres. The international community should continue to maintain pressure on South Africa until the progress achieved became irreversible.

23. Colonialism was both anachronistic and morally distasteful. His delegation hoped that the world would have rid itself of the practice before the twenty-first century.

24. Mr. Mwabuwkutu (United Republic of Tanzania) took the Chair.

25. Mr. JAMEEL (Bahrain) recalled the principles set forth in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and stressed the unlawfulness of the exploitation of the natural resources of colonial countries by foreign economic interests. Such activities were inconsistent with the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, the Charter of the United Nations and international law.

26. With regard to South Africa, he welcomed the positive steps taken during the year and expressed the hope that the complete dismantling of apartheid and the restoration of the political and constitutional rights of the black majority would soon be accomplished.

27. Mr. DIARRA (Mali) said that since the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples a number of colonial territories had achieved sovereignty, a positive development for which credit was due to the international community and, in particular, to the General Assembly which had set up the Special Committee on decolonization in order to ensure the implementation of the principles set forth in the Declaration taking into account the specific conditions within each Non-Self-Governing Territory. The Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia had achieved sovereignty and had been admitted to the United Nations. It was to be hoped that the 18 remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories would also be able to pronounce themselves on their future political status.

28. His delegation deplored that the Special Committee on decolonization had been subjected to sharp criticism relating to its very existence and the contents of its terms of reference as well as to the geographical delimitation of its area of activities. In its view, such matters could be considered only within the framework of the General Assembly. The Committee had developed greatly in recent years; an informal consultation group of the Fourth Committee had been set up, and the Special Committee's open-ended working group on the rationalization of its work had made valuable progress in 1991 and 1992. The two Subcommittees had been merged together and an omnibus resolution on 10 Non-Self-Governing Territories had been adopted. The Special Committee was proceeding in a conciliatory manner and endeavouring to eschew confrontation, avoid selective name-calling and streamline the language of draft resolutions and decisions. It had suspended the adoption of decisions

(Mr. Diarra, Mali)

concerning Puerto Rico and Palau in order to encourage the process taking place in those Territories. Some delegations were insisting that the Committee should drop the question of South Africa from its agenda and should refrain from mentioning the presence of military bases in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. Yet to do so would be to abandon the principles underlying the Special Committee's very existence. It was not the situation in Namibia alone that had justified the consideration of the situation in South Africa by the Fourth Committee. The roots of apartheid were to be found in colonialism. Eighty-five per cent of the population of South Africa had not yet exercised their right to self-determination. Some apartheid laws had been repealed and negotiations had been started within the framework of CODESA, but the process would become irreversible only with the coming into power of a multiracial interim government and the convening of a constituent assembly to draft the constitution of the future South Africa. As for the military bases of the administering Powers, their presence in the Non-Self-Governing Territories should neither jeopardize the security of the populations concerned nor constitute a threat of aggression against third countries.

29. He recalled the rights of Non-Self-Governing Territories and the obligations of administering Powers. He strongly encouraged visiting missions, which provided one of the best opportunities to follow developments in the Territories. By its resolution 46/181 concerning the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, the General Assembly had adopted a Plan of Action to give concrete substance to the Decade. In implementation of that resolution, a regional seminar had been held in Grenada in June 1992 to consider the special development needs of island Territories. Such seminars provided an opportunity to meet with the representatives of the Territories and to focus on the specific problems of a particular region. The General Assembly should take into account the conclusions and recommendations of the seminar, which were contained in document A/AC.109/1114. The United Nations should provide representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories with the means to participate in the work of the Special Committee on decolonization and in the various regional seminars planned during the Decade.

30. In conclusion, he again urged the administering Powers to return to the Special Committee, and noted that New Zealand had not stopped participating in its work despite differences of opinion.

31. Mrs. TAHIR-KHELI (United States of America) said that her Government supported the goals of Chapter XI of the Charter and that it was precisely for that reason that it had been forced to suspend cooperation with the Special Committee on decolonization. Although some progress had been made, the Special Committee continued to cling to an anachronistic and ideological agenda (South Africa, apartheid and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands) and persisted in using outmoded rhetoric. The draft resolution on foreign economic interests was one example. The draft resolution on the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands contravened chapters XII and XIII of the United Nations Charter, which established the jurisdiction of the Trusteeship Council on the matter.

(Mrs. Tahir-Kheli, United States)

32. The Fourth Committee therefore should scrutinize the texts submitted by the Special Committee on decolonization and produce resolutions consistent with its mandate and with the advances in the world and the United Nations system. Her delegation would offer detailed suggestions in that regard.

33. Mr. SNOUSSI (Morocco) said that his country always had been very willing to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General of the United Nations in seeking a just and lasting solution to the question [of Western Sahara], since it was at its request that the very principle of a referendum had been accepted and that the United Nations had been entrusted with the task of organizing and supervising the referendum. As a result of his country's cooperation, the agreement in principle of 1988 had established the general framework for the operation and the relevant Security Council resolutions had established the settlement plan and the implementation regulations. Similarly, it was as a result of his country's desire for peace that decisive progress had been made and given substance, in particular by the establishment of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO), the announcement of the cease-fire on 6 September 1991 and the finalization of all the regulations necessary for the actual conduct of the referendum.

34. Citing passages from the report of the Secretary-General (S/23299) in support of his argument, he said that there was absolutely no doubt that any delay in the implementation of the settlement plan was attributable to delaying tactics which could in no way be blamed on his country. His country had never failed to reaffirm its determination to continue cooperating with the Secretary-General with a view to the timely implementation of the settlement plan.

35. As a law-abiding nation, his country had always been known for its secular traditions of generosity, kindness and tolerance. The amnesty extended to many of those who had taken up arms against his country was the best proof of that fact, and there was no need to list the names of all the leaders of the other party who had recently returned to their country and had, naturally, been integrated into the life of the nation.

36. Ms. KLEOPAS (Cyprus) said that the end of the cold war and the rapid changes in the international political scene were developments that should encourage the international community to work consistently towards the elimination of colonialism by the year 2000.

37. The Special Committee on decolonization had made a considerable effort to adjust its methods of work to new situations. Its decision to merge its two subcommittees and to produce a single resolution on 10 of the 18 Non-Self-Governing Territories remaining on its agenda certainly were steps in the right direction. The Special Committee also had made every effort to focus its attention on the particular needs of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to improve its relations with the administering Powers, without whose cooperation the decolonization process could not be brought to a

(Ms. Kleopas, Cyprus)

successful conclusion. However, that change in approach and working methods should not result in a change in the Special Committee's mandate, which was to promote the right to self-determination until colonialism had been eliminated.

38. With regard to Western Sahara, her country supported the speedy and full implementation of the settlement plan and the holding of the referendum as envisaged by the relevant Security Council resolutions. An important contribution to that objective would be the adoption of the draft resolution by consensus, since it contained all the elements for a just and lasting solution to the problem.

39. Mr. KIM Jae Hon (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) said that since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) in 1960, the United Nations and the international community had made considerable progress towards the elimination of colonialism and racism, and that more than 80 colonial countries and other dependent Territories had attained independence and become Members of the United Nations. The Committee on Decolonization deserved praise for its strenuous efforts.

40. Nevertheless, much remained to be done, for many peoples still lived under colonial domination and were deprived of their inalienable right to self-determination and independence. Some colonial Powers, disregarding the resolutions and decisions adopted by United Nations bodies, maintained military bases in small Territories, posing a threat to peace and security. Those bases should be dismantled in order to enable the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to be implemented as soon as possible.

41. The activities of foreign economic interests also were a matter of grave concern. The United Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement and other international organizations had called on the interests concerned to discontinue their activities, which were detrimental to the peoples of the Territories. However, those interests continued to exploit the natural resources of the Territories, which would need them for economic growth after they had attained independence. Such activities constituted a direct violation of the right of the inhabitants of the Territories to the use of their natural resources.

42. The international community had to redouble its efforts and take concerted action to eradicate colonialism by the year 2000. The administering Powers should honour the United Nations resolutions and decisions and fulfil their obligations. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea was committed to the eradication of colonialism and racism and to cooperation with the international community to that end. It reaffirmed its solidarity with the liberation movements and peoples struggling to exercise the right to national self-determination and independence.

43. Mr. BAAH (Ghana) said that, with the end of the cold war and the instability of the international situation, priority must be given to decolonization, and efforts should not be slackened on the pretext that that task had practically been completed. The granting of independence to the remaining 18 Territories still under the colonial yoke should be hastened, and he welcomed in that regard the initiatives taken by the Special Committee on decolonization.

44. Regarding the rationalization of the work of the Special Committee and the Fourth Committee, his delegation welcomed the decision to produce an omnibus resolution covering 10 Non-Self-Governing Territories. It also welcomed the reduction in the duration of the general debate and hoped that all delegations would cooperate to ensure the expeditious dispatch of the business of the Committee.

45. On the question of Western Sahara, he reiterated his country's support for the United Nations settlement plan as endorsed by the Security Council. Ghana supported the appeal to the parties to abide by the terms of the cease-fire, supported the activities of MINURSO and appreciated the iniatives of the Secretary-General and his representative in the region. He called on all parties to work towards the holding of a referendum for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara under the supervision of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity.

46. On the question of apartheid, he noted with satisfaction the decision of the Special Committee not to delete mention of apartheid in its recommendation, since the international community ought to continue to express its abhorrence of apartheid. Positive changes had taken place in South Africa in recent months, but it was necessary for negotiations to resume, and the Special Committee ought therefore to follow the situation in that country closely in order to submit appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly.

47. With regard to economic activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, it was of the utmost importance to grant the Non-Self-Governing Territories sufficient means to enable them to exercise their right to self-determination in accordance with resolution 1514 (XV). The United Nations and the administering Powers should prevent any wanton exploitation of the natural resources of those Territories and ensure that the profits accruing from such economic activity were directed towards the advancement of the peoples of the Territories.

48. Ms. LEONCE (Saint Lucia) said that her country, which had undergone the decolonization process, achieving independence, with the support and oversight of the United Nations, was well informed on the issue of self-determination. Furthermore, Saint Lucia had played an active role in the formulation of the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism. The dramatic progress achieved in the decolonization process should not be taken as justification to slacken efforts to eliminate colonialism. She concurred with the States members of the South Pacific Forum

(Ms. Leonce, Saint Lucia)

that a strong Fourth Committee and Special Committee were crucial to eradicating colonialism by the year 2000. The decolonization process had not ended with the independence of Namibia, and that process must take on a new form to address the unique development needs of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, which were mostly small island developing countries. Efforts should also be redoubled to ensure the implementation of all the provisions of the resolutions which served as a blueprint for a successful decolonization process.

49. As called for by their representatives at the June 1992 Decolonization Seminar held at Grenada, efforts must be made to increase the participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the activities of the United Nations system and in other regional and international bodies, because such activities were important to political and constitutional advancement. Accordingly, Saint Lucia supported the participation of the representatives of the elected Governments of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the Fourth Committee and the Special Committee. With regard to participation in regional organizations, the Caribbean Community had admitted the British Virgin Islands and the Turks and Caicos Islands as associate members in 1991 and had granted observer status to the Governments of Anguilla, Bermuda and the Cayman Islands. With respect to the United Nations system, Saint Lucia continued to work closely with many Non-Self-Governing Territories in the region of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), in which they held associate membership.

50. Saint Lucia endeavoured to promote the expanded participation of Non-Self-Governing Territories in programmes and activities of the United Nations system and in that connection supported the recommendation of the 1992 Decolonization Seminar favouring assistance by the Special Committee to the Working Group of Non-Independent Countries of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee. In conclusion, she reaffirmed the continued applicability to the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories of the principles of self-determination as contained in the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council.

51. Mr. GRIFFIN (Australia) said that rationalization of the work of the Committee, against the backdrop of the restructuring of the United Nations system, was all the more important because most of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories were island communities in the South Pacific and the Caribbean whose particular circumstances were of particular concern to Australia, which had continued to play an active role in support of the decolonization process, because it was conscious of the implications any failure to reform working methods would have for a number of its neighbours in the South Pacific.

(Mr. Griffin, Australia)

52. The adoption by the forty-sixth session of an omnibus resolution addressing the concrete needs and circumstances of the small Territories had been an important achievement, and every effort must be made to ensure that that resolution was adopted by consensus. The move to a single general debate covering all agenda items, the adoption of new arrangements for the hearing of petitioners, eliminating the hearing of the same petitioners by both bodies, as well as the possible reconsideration by the Committee of draft resolutions submitted by the Special Committee, were particularly important measures. Texts dealing with central elements in the decolonization process, such as foreign economic interests or with programmes and activities affecting the socio-economic development of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, such as those of the specialized agencies, that had not attracted consensus were damaging to both the standing of the Special Committee and the interests of those Territories. The Australian delegation regretted that once again at the current session the language of the resolutions submitted was, in many cases, remote from the current political realities and the needs and concerns of the Territories.

53. Australia was a strong supporter of United Nations peace-keeping operations, and had therefore contributed a 45-strong signals corps to the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO). Australia called on the parties concerned to extend their full cooperation to the Secretary-General and his Special Representative in their efforts to overcome the difficulties encountered in proceeding with the implementation of the settlement plan. Under the rubric of assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories, Australia provided education and training assistance to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories in its region, notably New Caledonia and Tokelau. In the financial year 1991/1992, that assistance had amounted to US$ 516,000. Further details of that assistance were contained in document A/47/486.

54. As a South Pacific nation, Australia attached particular importance to the situation in New Caledonia and fully associated itself with the remarks made during an earlier meeting by the Acting Permanent Representative of Solomon Islands on behalf of the member States of the South Pacific Forum. The decolonization of New Caledonia presented a particularly complex problem, requiring sensitivity, cooperation and good will from all parties involved. The interests of New Caledonia and of regional stability required a peaceful and orderly transition to genuine self-determination in which all options, including independence, would be open, and which would safeguard the rights of the indigenous Kanaks and those of all other New Caledonians. Australia had been much encouraged by the achievements recorded over the past four years under the Matignon Agreement, concluded in July 1988. A new political structure had been put in place, involving the devolution of powers from the central authorities to new provincial institutions. While many obstacles remained to be overcome, progress was being achieved with a view to creating a more harmonious political and socio-economic environment in which New Caledonians could duly exercise their right to self-determination. At the

(Mr. Griffin, Australia)

conclusion of his visit to New Caledonia in February 1992, the Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade had remarked on the evolution of attitudes and the prevailing spirit of common purpose. The growing pattern of exchanges between New Caledonia and neighbouring countries, including Australia, would help ensure that the Territory was fully integrated in the region. The Matignon Agreement was a framework designed to foster a favourable climate for New Caledonia's progress towards self-determination. It was therefore vital that the political commitment and good faith of the parties to the Agreement were constantly maintained. When the Agreement was reviewed in early 1993, the parties should take the opportunity to renew their commitment to ensuring that the spirit which had reigned in July 1988 was maintained and that New Caledonia's progress towards self-determination remained peaceful. The Australian delegation hoped that the draft resolution on New Caledonia, which had been adopted unanimously by the Special Committee, would be adopted by consensus.

55. Mr. VALEV (Bulgaria) said that over the past 47 years, the United Nations had played a major role in the decolonization process, as witnessed by the number of Member States, which had more than tripled since the inception of the Organization, largely owing to the attainment of independence by former colonial Territories. Such success was all the more remarkable in that it had been achieved in the context of the cold war. Bulgaria had always defended the fundamental right of peoples to self-determination, and would continue to participate actively in United Nations activities aimed at eliminating colonialism in all the dependent Territories. The international changes of recent years facilitated the creation of a new climate, and Bulgaria was convinced that the Fourth Committee and the other bodies concerned with decolonization should not only benefit from that new environment, but should also contribute to its establishment.

56. In order to enable all peoples to exercise their right to self-determination, there should be consensus on the issues concerning the dependent Territories. The United Nations was now being called upon to prevent such issues resulting in discord between North and South or between different entities within the South itself. In that respect, the international community should assume its legal and moral obligations.

57. The Fourth Committee and the other competent bodies of the United Nations should devote themselves to the specific problems of the Non-Self-Governing Territories. It was necessary to enhance cooperation between the administering Powers and the authorities of the Territories with a view to implementing appropriate programmes for developing infrastructures and for stimulating and diversifying economic activities. The specialized agencies could play an important role to that end through more active incorporation of the Territories in existing programmes and projects in areas such as environment, education and the prevention of drug trafficking.

(Mr. Valev, Bulgaria)

58. The Bulgarian delegation had, on many occasions, stressed the need to rationalize the work of the Special Committee on decolonization in conformity with the changes in the international situation. Its effectiveness would thus be enhanced, which would serve the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories. Some progress had already been made in that direction.

59. At the same time, the Bulgarian delegation was disappointed by the texts of the draft resolutions on the implementation of the Declaration on decolonization by the specialized agencies and on foreign economic interests, as well as by the draft decision on military activities, contained in the report of the Special Committee. Those texts reflected past controversies and dealt with irrelevant issues. Such drafts would not improve the effectiveness of the Special Committee, or serve the interests of the peoples concerned. The Bulgarian delegation was ready to make its contribution if the Fourth Committee decided to establish a negotiating framework for the drafts in question. It favoured merging the Fourth Committee with the Special Political Committee, provided that it would not be detrimental to consideration of the items on their respective agendas.

60. Mrs. ASHIPALA (Namibia) said that the end of the cold war should accelerate attainment of the right of peoples to self- determination, while also making the work of the Fourth Committee even more relevant. The Namibian delegation welcomed the achievements of the Special Committee on decolonization. It would similarly welcome any changes in the Special Committee's methods of work which would add new impetus to its work.

61. Foreign economic activities which impeded implementation of the Declaration on decolonization were a matter of great concern. On the other hand, Namibia favourably viewed economic activities which benefited people in Non-Self-Governing Territories, being all too well aware that such activities should run parallel with the advancement of the people in those Territories.

62. Namibia commended the Organization of African Unity for having referred the question of violence in South Africa to the Security Council. It also strongly supported the involvement of the United Nations in South Africa. Namibia called on all parties to put an end to the violence; however, it was the primary responsibility of the South African Government to take prompt, decisive and concrete action to end the violence. Just as an end to violence was a prerequisite for the resumption of negotiations, the full dismantling of apartheid was a prerequisite for change.

63. With regard to Western Sahara, Namibia supported the right of the Saharan people to self-determination. Consequently, it endorsed the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Representative to remove all obstacles to the continuation of the peace process.

64. Mr. AYEWAH (Nigeria) said that despite the historic progress made, the United Nations had not yet achieved its objective of decolonization. The new opportunities created by the end of the cold war should facilitate implementation of resolution 1514 (XV) in the remaining Territories.

65. With regard to South Africa, the negotiations for a transition to a democratic non-racial society had been halted some three months earlier, giving reason for concern that the progress achieved so far was not irreversible. While apartheid laws had been abolished, their legacies persisted. Since the South African Government continued to deny the majority of South Africans the right to self-determination, its attitude should be condemned in all United Nations bodies, particularly the Fourth Commitee and the Special Committee against Apartheid.

66. His delegation commended the efforts so far made by the United Nations as well as the Organization of African Unity towards implementation of a settlement plan. The parties must scrupulously observe the cease-fire and abstain from any provocative behaviour that could hinder the plan's rapid implementation. It was to be hoped that the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Representative, assisted by minurso, would lead to the early holding of a self-determination referendum.

67. Considering that economic interactions between States must be mutually beneficial, he urged the administering Powers to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the peoples in the dependent Territories and ensure that they could benefit from their natural resources and thus be viable as independent nations. His delegation was opposed to such abuses against some African countries, developing countries or Non-Self-Governing Territories as the dumping of consumer goods including hazardous waste on their soil. Those countries should not be used as havens for slush money and military bases.

68. The new world order should ensure freedom for all peoples, freedom from economic exploitation, aggression and underdevelopment.

69. Mr. Kember (New Zealand) took the Chair.

70. Mrs. KATABARWA (Uganda) welcomed the positive transformation of international relationships. Mistrust was giving way to dialogue, and the new mood would help the United Nations play its full role in promoting international peace and security. The decolonization effort was not complete, and the auspicious moment must be seized for applying resolution 1514 (XV) to the last Territories concerned. Petitioners heard by the Committee had emphasized the difficulties many of the Non-Self-Governing Territories faced. Such difficulties were not insurmountable, and the United Nations should define possible solutions to them.

71. She noted with regret that some issues needed to be revisited despite the spirit of consensus that had prevailed in the adoption of the relevant resolutions the previous year. With respect to Western Sahara, while

(Mrs. Katabarwa, Uganda)

reaffirming its support for the right to self-determination of the Saharan people, her delegation shared the views of the Secretary-General on the need for both parties to adhere to the cease-fire agreement. Security Council resolution 690 (1991) remained the basis for the resolution of the problem, and it was to be hoped that the referendum envisaged in the settlement plan could be held.

72. Uganda had been encouraged by the positive steps taken by President de Klerk towards the dismantling of apartheid in South Africa, but the major pillars of that policy remained in place. The South African Government had done little to stop the massacres during the recent flare-up of violence in the townships, which prompted doubts as to Mr. de Klerk's sincerity. Since the talks between the South African Government and the African National Congress had resumed, her delegation wished to call on all parties concerned to create an atmosphere conducive to peaceful and democratic change in South Africa. The international community should continue to exert pressure on the South African regime until the apartheid Constitution was replaced by one that guaranteed equal rights for all South Africans. The process of democratization must not be derailed. On the threshold of the twenty-first century, Member States must dedicate their efforts to the granting of independence to all colonial peoples, finally putting an end to that legacy of human indignity.

73. Mr. MWABULUKUTU (United Republic of Tanzania) said that the end of the cold war should facilitate the process of decolonization. More than 30 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, there were still peoples under colonial domination. The fact that decolonization issues were still before the Fourth Committee should incite the international community to redouble its efforts to speed up the decolonization process. Namibia's presence in the Fourth Committee was an encouragement for peoples still aspiring to independence.

74. As there had been criticisms of the Committee on decolonization, his delegation wished to reiterate that that Committee must press on with its work until it had fully accomplished its mandate. It must certainly take account of the continually changing international environment, and had in fact done so. Over the preceding two years, several reforms had been introduced to streamline the work of the Committee on decolonization, which had, for instance, decided to present an omnibus resolution on all Non-Self-Governing Territories and to continue consideration of the question of apartheid in the light of developments in South Africa. The apartheid policy denied the majority of South Africans their right to participate in the affairs of their own country and so was tantamount to colonialism. Despite the criticisms levelled at it, the Committee on decolonization was therefore right to continue consideration of the question of apartheid.

75. With respect to Western Sahara, his delegation hoped that the obstacles encountered could be overcome rapidly and urged the parties to the conflict to

(Mr. Mwabulukutu, United Republic of Tanzania)

exercise restraint and cooperate fully with the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity in observing the cease-fire so as to enable early implementation of the settlement plan.

76. The peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories must be given a chance to exercise their right to self-determination and independence freely in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV). If the target of ending colonialism by the year 2000 was to be met, all concerned parties must show the necessary political will.

77. Lastly, his delegation was aware of the views expressed by some delegations that most of the activities of foreign economic interests, as well as military activities and other arrangements by colonial Powers could be beneficial to colonial peoples. However, as it had had occasion to point out, such benefits must be measured against those peoples' aspiration to attain freedom. Their efforts to realize that aspiration were what should guide the Committee's decisions. The fundamental changes that had recently taken place and so profoundly affected the international economic and political situation provided a favourable environment for accelerating the decolonization process.

78. The CHAIRMAN suggested that 6 p.m. on Thursday, 29 October should be the deadline for the submission of draft proposals or amendments relating to the recommendations of the Special Committee on the items on its agenda. He urged delegations to expedite their consultations on the draft proposals so that the Fourth Committee could complete its work as soon as possible, as scheduled.

The meeting rose at 5.55 p.m.

UNITED NATIONS

General Assembly

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

Official Records

FOURTH COMMITTEE
8th meeting
held on
Tuesday, 3 November 1992
at 3 p.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 8th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. MELENDEZ-BARAHONA (El Salvador)

CONTENTS

AGENDA ITEM 98: INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES TRANSMITTED UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS (continued)

AGENDA ITEM 99: ACTIVITIES OF THOSE FOREIGN ECONOMIC AND OTHER INTERESTS WHICH IMPEDE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES IN TERRITORIES UNDER COLONIAL DOMINATION AND EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE COLONIALISM, APARTHEID AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA (continued)

AGENDA ITEM 18: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES (continued)

AGENDA ITEM 100: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES BY THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS (continued)

AGENDA ITEM 101: OFFERS BY MEMBER STATES OF STUDY AND TRAINING FACILITIES FOR INHABITANTS OF NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES (continued)

This record is subject to correction.
Corrections should be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned *within one week of the date of publication* to the Chief of the Official Records Editing Section, Room DC2-750, 2 United Nations Plaza, and incorporated in a copy of the record.

Corrections will be issued after the end of the session, in a separate corrigendum for each Committee.

92-57447 6220S (E)

Distr. GENERAL
A/C.4/47/SR.8
12 November 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

The meeting was called to order at 3.45 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 98: INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES TRANSMITTED UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS (continued)

Draft resolution contained in document A/47/23 (Part IV), chapter VIII, paragraph 10

1. A recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution.

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Finland, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: None.

Abstaining: France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

2. The draft resolution was adopted by 129 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

3. Mr. EVANS (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) said that his delegation had abstained in the vote on the draft resolution, as it had in previous years. It would of course continue to comply with its obligations in respect of the United Kingdom dependent territories under Article 73 e of the United Nations Charter. It did not, however, agree with

(Mr. Evans, United Kingdom)

the statement contained in paragraph 1 of the resolution that it was for the General Assembly to decide when a Non-Self-Governing Territory had reached a level of self-government sufficient to relieve the administering Power of the obligation to submit information under Article 73 e of the Charter. Such decisions must be left to the Government of the Territory concerned and the administering Power .

AGENDA ITEM 99: ACTIVITIES OF THOSE FOREIGN ECONOMIC AND OTHER INTERESTS WHICH IMPEDE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES IN TERRITORIES UNDER COLONIAL DOMINATION AND EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE COLONIALISM, APARTHEID AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA (continued)

AGENDA ITEM 18: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES (continued)

AGENDA ITEM 100: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES BY THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS (continued)

Draft resolution contained in document A/47/23 (Part III), chapter V, paragraph 15

Draft decision contained in document A/47/23 (Part III), chapter VI, paragraph 12

Draft resolution contained in document A/47/23 (Part IV), chapter VII, paragraph 15

4. Mr. EVANS (United Kingdom), speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States in explanation of vote before the voting on the draft resolutions and draft decision before the Committee, said, in connection with agenda item 99, that the European Community and its member States did not hesitate to oppose any activities, such as the depletion of indigenous natural resources, of foreign economic and other interests which might be impeding the process of self-determination of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories. However, as in previous years, the draft resolution on the item failed to take into account that foreign investments often contributed greatly to the economic and social development of those Territories. The lack of a clear distinction between beneficial and harmful activities, and the underlying assumption that any foreign investment as such was detrimental, constituted a major flaw in the draft resolution. In that connection, the European Community recalled the appeals contained in other resolutions and decisions, previously adopted, for acceleration of the economic development of Non-Self-Governing Territories. The European Community also had reservations of principle with regard to a number of specific paragraphs in the draft

(Mr. Evans, United Kingdom)

resolution that did not conform to the Charter provisions concerning the division of competence between the General Assembly and the Security Council.

5. The European Community and its member States wished to express their concern that the Committee once again had to deal with a draft decision relating to military activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. That subject was not on the list of the agenda items allocated by the General Assembly to the Fourth Committee. The European Community and its member States had made the same comments repeatedly in the past and regretted to see that, once more, they had not been taken into account.

6. The European Community recalled yet again that the situation in Namibia was the basis for the reference to apartheid under agenda item 99. Since Namibia had been independent for over two years, they felt that matters relating to apartheid should not be considered in the Fourth Committee, which dealt with decolonization. The European Community would have the opportunity of reiterating its condemnation of apartheid and racial discrimination under the appropriate General Assembly agenda items.

7. It was for those reasons that the European Community and its member States would vote against the draft resolution and the draft decision.

8. In connection with agenda item 100, the Community and its member States considered that the draft resolution on the subject unnecessarily retained 1991's contentious and therefore unhelpful language, and elements that the Community and its member States had consistently opposed in the past. The Community supported the efforts by the specialized agencies to provide humanitarian, technical and educational assistance, within their particular competence, to Territories concerned. They considered, however, that the autonomy and statutes of the specialized agencies must be respected. They also felt compelled to reiterate their opposition to the continued references to apartheid in the draft resolution on the item as well. Not only were such references totally out of place but the language proposed was far removed from reality and from the consensus language adopted by the General Assembly under the appropriate agenda items. The European Community and its member States strongly regretted that the draft resolution in question did not contribute to the attainment of the goals it shared in the field of decolonization and, in view of the considerations he had just stated, were unable to support it.

9. Mr. DZAKHAEV (Russian Federation), speaking in explanation of vote before the voting, said that it had worked with other delegations in the Committee on decolonization to seek agreement on the texts in question and was glad that it had been possible to supersede to some extent the language used in the past. Nevertheless the texts continued to use some of the old language, and for that reason his delegation would find it necessary to vote against them. It hoped that it would be able to go on working in the Committee on decolonization for a speedy end to colonialism.

10. A recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution contained in document A/47/23 (part III), chapter V, paragraph 15.

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Argentina, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Panama, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, Ukraine, Uruguay.

11. The draft resolution contained in document A/47/23 (Part III), chapter V, paragraph 15, was adopted by 89 votes to 32, with 8 abstentions.

12. A recorded vote was taken on the draft decision contained in document A/47/23 (Part III), chapter VI, paragraph 12.

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania,

Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Argentina, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Panama, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, Uruguay.

13. The draft decision contained in document A/47/23 (part III), chapter VI, paragraph 12, was adopted by 90 votes to 33, with 7 abstentions.

14. Mr. MOTSWAGAE (Botswana) said that it had voted in favour of the draft decision, but, for reasons well known to members of the Committee, wished to reserve its position with respect to all the provisions in it calling for the imposition of sanctions.

15. A recorded vote was taken on the draft resolution contained in document A/47/23 (Part IV), chapter VII, paragraph 15.

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Argentina, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Greece, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, Spain, Turkey, Uruguay.

16. The draft resolution contained in document A/47/23 (Part IV), chapter VII, paragraph 15, was adopted by 93 votes to 27, with 13 abstentions.

17. Mr. MANSO (United States of America) said that the new sense of hope and optimism with which the world now looked to the United Nations conferred on Member States a responsibility to work together in a spirit of cooperation and honesty in striving to fulfil the world's new expectations. The Committee had just adopted three resolutions that failed to live up to that responsibility or the hopes of the world's peoples. Most tragically, they mocked the true needs of the people in the few remaining Territories still working towards a greater measure of self-government.

18. The resolutions on foreign economic interests, specialized agencies and military activities could have been vehicles for discussing important and constructive ideas. Instead, they again focused on outmoded agendas and rhetoric inappropriate to the United Nations and long since bypassed by history. The legacy of those resolutions was their complete irrelevance.

19. As the United Nations struggled to come to grips with serious new issues, it could not afford the cult of irrelevance which some would perpetuate. The Organization was taking great strides to meet the needs and opportunities of the future. The commitment to relevance of the Fourth Committee's forward-looking members guaranteed that change would come to it too, despite the efforts of the few. But time was precious, and it was necessary to hurry.

20. Ms. NIELSEN (Denmark), speaking on behalf of the Nordic countries, confirmed their long-standing support for the decolonization process and the right of all peoples in Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in accordance with their own freely expressed political aspirations. In recent years the Nordic countries had called on the Committee to direct its efforts to issues relevant to the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories. Important work remained to be done by the United Nations. The Nordic countries welcomed the work that was being done by the specialized agencies in those territories and the presentations made by the United Nations Development Programme and other agencies during the current session's general debate.

21. Despite the debate over the last two years about the need for reform of the working procedures of the Fourth Committee and the need for fundamental

(Ms. Nielsen, Denmark)

changes in some of the resolutions and decisions, the Committee was again taking action on texts almost identical to those of the last session under agenda items 99 and 100.

22. The arguments of the Nordic countries against key parts of the three drafts had been clearly stated at both of the Fourth Committee's last two sessions. They regretted that they had had to vote against the two draft resolutions and the draft decision and hoped that the voting pattern at the present session would compel a majority of the Committee to work more realistically and in a way which would be of direct relevance to the peoples of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories.

23. Mr. HAJNOCZI (Austria) said it was his delegation's view that, although the objectives set forth in the Declaration on decolonization still remained as applicable as they had been when that document was adopted, that did not mean it was unaware of the manifold changes and substantial progress achieved with regard to decolonization over the past years. The three texts on which the Committee had just voted failed to reflect those important improvements and contained language that was clearly outdated.

24. Austria did not object to a reflection in the relevant draft resolution of the view that some activities of foreign economic and other interests could impede the process of decolonization but regarded it as a major shortcoming that the text did not state that such interests undoubtedly promoted economic and social development of non-self-governing territories in many cases. Now that the independence of Namibia had been achieved, it saw no further need to address the question of apartheid in the context of decolonization, although it must remain an item of utmost priority in the plenary meetings of the General Assembly. Moreover, the language used concerning apartheid in the three texts was outdated, as it no longer reflected developments in South Africa; moreover, it continued to be important that the General Assembly should respect the prerogatives of the Security Council.

25. For the reasons given, his delegation had found it necessary to vote against all three texts. However, it hoped that the changes necessary to make the resolutions more relevant would be made in 1993. Although some steps had been taken since 1991 to make the Committee's working methods more efficient, his delegation wished to see the Committee concentrate its efforts on the real challenges with regard to decolonization. In that spirit, it welcomed the important contributions made by the United Nations and its specialized agencies as well as the international institutions associated with the United Nations to the economic and social development of Non-Self-Governing Territories and would continue to support those activities through the funding of the specialized agencies and other institutions and its positive attitude in the relevant intergovernmental bodies.

26. Mrs. CAÑAS (Argentina) said that Argentina continued to support unswervingly the decolonization process of the United Nations but had abstained in the votes just taken because the references to South Africa were not in keeping with political developments in that country, and it considered that better balanced language would promote speedier settlement of the situation there.

AGENDA ITEM 101: OFFERS BY MEMBER STATES OF STUDY AND TRAINING FACILITIES FOR INHABITANTS OF NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES (continued)

27. The CHAIRMAN announced that Burkina Faso, Malaysia and Senegal had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.4/47/L.4.

28. Draft resolution A/C.4/47/L.4 was adopted without objection.

AGENDA ITEM 18: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES (Territories not covered under other agenda items) (continued) (A/47/23 (Part V), chap. IX, para. 31 and (Part VI), chap. X, paras. 25 and 26; A/C.4/47/L.2 and L.3)

29. Mr. DE SOUZA (Secretary of the Committee), referring to the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.4/47/L.2 on the question of Western Sahara, informed the Committee, with respect to paragraph 3 of the draft resolution, that the Secretary-General intended within the next four weeks to submit a full report to the Security Council on his Special Representative's current efforts to reactivate the implementation of the settlement plan but was in the meantime proposing to maintain the existing deployment and staffing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO). That would have no financial implications for the regular budget because MINURSO was made being financed under a separate assessment. As to the activities referred to in paragraph 6 of the draft resolution, they had been originally programmed under section 6C.2 of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 but had, after the restructuring of the Secretariat, been transferred to section 37 (Department of Political Affairs) of the budget and would fall under subprogramme 3 of programme 4 of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, if the proposed revisions to programme 4 recommended by the Committee for Programme and Coordination in its report (A/47/16 (Part II), paras. 43-54) were adopted by the General Assembly at its current session.

30. With regard to the programme budget implications of the draft proposals on the Territories covered under agenda item 18 that were contained in document A/47/23 (Part V), chapter IX, paragraph 31, and (Part VI), chapter X, paragraphs 25 and 26, it was estimated that those draft proposals would not give rise to additional costs or programmatic changes since adequate provision had been made under section 6A of the programme budget, subsequently transferred to section 37.

Draft resolution A/C.4/47/L.2 on the question of Western Sahara

31. The CHAIRMAN said that, after consultations with the parties concerned and with all the interested parties, agreement had been reached on the draft resolution on Western Sahara, which he was submitting as a text from the Chairman. He thanked the parties concerned for the efforts they had made to achieve a consensus, and all the interested parties for their cooperation.

32. Mr. GAMBARI (Nigeria), speaking in explanation of position on behalf of Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Jamaica, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Rwanda, St. Kitts and Nevis, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Suriname, Swaziland, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe, observed that those Member States had been among those which had initiated the joint good-offices mission of the Chairman of the Organization of African Unity and the Secretary-General of the United Nations established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 40/50, and which had introduced several successive resolutions supporting the peace process in Western Sahara. At a time when the peace process was at a critical stage, those same delegations supported draft resolution A/47/C.4/L.2, in particular paragraph 3, and were pleased that the Committee had again reached consensus on the question of Western Sahara.

33. Mr. SNOUSSI (Morocco), speaking in explanation of position, observed that, in view of the Chairman's determined efforts to obtain the consensus, in advance, of all members of the Committee on the draft resolution in question, he found that the statement just made by the representative of Nigeria on behalf of a group of traditional sponsors of resolutions on the question was not only superfluous but counterproductive, and discourteous to both the Chairman and Morocco.

34. It was true, however, that the Sahara issue had reached a decisive stage. Thanks to the untiring good offices of the Secretary-General since 1985 in search of a peaceful solution to the question, a settlement process had been developed and implemented in stages under the authority of the Security Council, and the Council was currently continuing to exercise in respect of Western Sahara the functions assigned to it in the Charter, as the Secretary-General had noted in his latest report on the matter (A/47/506, para. 25).

35. Morocco commended the Chairman for his considerable and much appreciated efforts, which had allowed him to submit a draft resolution on the Sahara that could be adopted without a vote.

36. Draft resolution A/C.4/47/L.2 was adopted without a vote.

Draft resolution A/C.4/47/L.3 on the question of Gibraltar

37. Draft resolution A/C.4/47/L.3 was adopted without objection.

Draft resolution on the question of New Caledonia (document A/47/23 (Part V), chapter IX, paragraph 31)

38. Mr. LOHIA (Papua New Guinea), endorsing the position of the South Pacific Forum countries as set out in document A/47/391 and reiterated recently in the plenary Assembly, expressed the hope that New Caledonia would achieve self-determination and independence as soon as possible, with the active involvement of the United Nations and in accordance with the wishes of the Kanaks and their representatives and all the people of New Caledonia, working in cooperation with the Administering Power within the framework of the Matignon Agreement. Encouraged by the positive steps being taken by the parties concerned, his Government hoped that the economic, social and political imbalances in the Territory due to its colonial history would be redressed. The South Pacific Forum had just established a fund for the education and training of the Kanaks, in order to ensure effective participation by the indigenous population. The Administering Power and the other parties to the Matignon Agreement should begin preparations on the establishment of an accurate electoral roll for the forthcoming 1998 referendum.

39. The draft resolution on New Caledonia was the product of consultations with all parties concerned and reflected the actual situation in the Territory. It had the support of the administering Power, and he hoped that the Committee would adopt it by consensus.

40. The draft resolution on the question of New Caledonia, contained in document A/47/23 (Part V), chapter IX, paragraph 31, was adopted without objection.

Draft decision I on the question of Pitcairn (A/47/23 (Part VI), chapter X, paragraph 26)

41. Draft decision I on the question of Pitcairn, contained in document A/47/23 (Part VI), chapter X, paragraph 26, was adopted by consensus.

Draft decision II on the question of St. Helena (A/47/23 (Part VI), chapter X, paragraph 26)

42. A recorded vote was taken on draft decision II on the question of St. Helena.

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi,

Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine.

43. Draft decision II was adopted by 96 votes to 2, with 34 abstentions.

44. Mr. EVANS (United Kingdom) said that the draft decision on St. Helena was, as in previous years, unacceptable to his Government since it referred to military facilities on Ascension Island which, though linked to St. Helena for administrative reasons, was not on the Committee's agenda. Furthermore, the suggestion that the very limited military facilities in question could be a source of concern regarding aggression or interference in neighbouring States was incomprehensible. His Government's policy towards the British Dependent Territories was conducted fully in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter. Accordingly, his delegation had voted against the draft decision.

The meeting rose at 4.55 p.m.

UNITED NATIONS

General Assembly

FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION

Official Records

FOURTH COMMITTEE
9th meeting
held on
Thursday, 5 November 1992
at 3 p.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 9th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. MELENDEZ-BARAHONA (El Salvador)

CONTENTS

AGENDA ITEM 18: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES (Territories not covered under other agenda items) (continued)

COMPLETION OF THE COMMITTEE'S WORK

This record is subject to correction.
Corrections should be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned *within one week of the date of publication* to the Chief of the Official Records Editing Section, Room DC2-750, 2 United Nations Plaza, and incorporated in a copy of the record.

Corrections will be issued after the end of the session, in a separate corrigendum for each Committee.

92-57549 6244S (E)

Distr. GENERAL
A/C.4/47/SR.9
17 November 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

/...

The meeting was called to order at 4.05 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 18: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES (continued)

Omnibus draft resolution on the questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Tokelau, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands (A/47/23 (Part VI), chap. X, para. 25; A/C.4/47/L.6, L.7 and L.8)

1. Mrs. TAHIR-KHELI (United States of America), introducing the amendments contained in documents A/C.4/47/L.6, L.7 and L.8, said that her Government was firmly committed to the principles of decolonization and self-determination in accordance with the Charter. To help implement those principles, the Committee should ensure that its resolutions regarding Non-Self-Governing Territories were at least factually correct. To that end, her delegation had proposed amendments to the sections of the omnibus resolution dealing with Guam, American Samoa and the United States Virgin Islands.

2. She regretted that no consensus had been reached on the amendments, inspite of an informal dialogue with certain delegations since June 1992. However, her Government saw no reason why the Committee should approve the resolutions before it, which contained material misstatements of fact, when it was fully capable of correcting them.

3. The amendments proposed should prove uncontroversial, as they were matters of record. For example, in the text dealing with American Samoa, it was noted that the new political status and Constitutional Review Commission had been created under an executive order signed by the Governor. Similarly, in the text on Guam, the addition of the phrase "continue to" to the paragraph dealing with the transfer of land to the people of the Territory only reflected the fact that thousands of acres of land had already been so transferred.

4. Her Government had taken care to propose non-confrontational amendments, and had been prepared to discuss them with any of the concerned delegations, but given the unwillingness of those delegations to do so, it had been compelled to put them before the Committee.

5. The Committee should, of course, take into account the views of the people of the Territories, and nothing in the United States amendments ran contrary to their interests. Her delegation was aware that the Governor of Guam had indicated, in a letter to the Committee, that he did not believe the proposed amendment regarding Guam enhanced the resolution. However, he had not addressed the substance of any of the amendments, which her delegation believed were primarily factual rather than political. The same was true of a letter (A/C.4/47/3) concerning the United States Virgin Islands received by the Committee from a person not an elected official of the Virgin Islands'

(Mrs. Tahir-Kheli, United States)

Government and not qualified to speak on behalf of their people. Both letters were irregular inasmuch as there were established procedures whereby the Committee could seek the views of the Territories. Moreover, the elected representatives of American Samoa, Guam and the United States Virgin Islands had had an opportunity to comment on the amendments and none had raised any objection. Indeed, the representatives in the United States Congress of American Samoa and Guam had each written a letter noting misstatements in the resolutions regarding their Territories. She asked the Committee's support in adopting the amendments before it.

6. Mr. DIARRA (Mali) asked for a clarification on the proposed replacement, in document A/C.4/47/L.8, of paragraph 3, since the replacement paragraph did not appear to deal with the same subject.

7. Mrs. TAHIR-KHELI (United States of America) said that there was no error; the intention had been to delete the paragraph in question.

8. Mr. WAS (India) noted that there was a contradiction, in document A/C.4/47/L.8, between the amendment proposed to the ninth preambular paragraph, which spoke of "the district court judgeship", in the singular, and the amendment to operative paragraph 3, which spoke of "both district court judgeships".

9. Mrs. TAHIR-KHELI (United States of America) said that both references should have been to a single judgeship.

10. Mr. LOHIA (Papua New Guinea) said that the Committee must verify the facts in its resolutions. The parties concerned, especially the territorial Governments and the administering Powers, should work closely with one another and with the Fourth Committee and the Special Committee on decolonization. However, the United States delegation had refused to cooperate with the Special Committee since the beginning of the year. He hoped that the situation would not be repeated the following year and appealed to all administering Powers to avoid any repetition of it. Misstatements could have been avoided in the draft resolution if discussions had been held with the Territories concerned.

11. Government representatives from Guam and the United States Virgin Islands had asked the Fourth Committee to endorse the recommendations of the Special Committee on decolonization, and in view of the importance of the views of the Territories concerned, it might be better for an improved text to be considered when the Special Committee met again in February 1993.

12. He appealed officially to the administering Power to give serious consideration to deferring the proposals before the Fourth Committee so as to preserve its integrity. Appropriate consultations could then be held before the February session.

13. Miss AL-MULLA (Kuwait) noted that the last paragraph of resolution B I on American Samoa spoke of a period of 11 years that had elapsed since a United Nations Mission had visited the Territory and called upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of such a mission, while the corresponding paragraph of resolution B VI, on Guam, made no such request even though in that case 13 years had elapsed. She wondered why there should be such a discrepancy.

14. Mrs. TAHIR-KHELI (United States of America) said that her Government had always been most forthcoming in the matter of visiting missions, which were considered on a case-by-case basis. In the Trusteeship Council, it had actually offered a visiting mission a chance to visit Palau. Moreover, her delegation was very pleased that the Chairman of the Special Committee had been one of those to go to Palau and in fact on the way there had visited Guam as well.

15. Mr. MORENO FERNANDEZ (Cuba) said that three aspects of the situation created by the submission of the United States amendments would affect the way his delegation voted on them. The first was that, as the Chairman of the Special Committee had indicated, the United States delegation had refused from the beginning of 1992 to cooperate with that Committee. Had the United States not taken that action, all the matters raised in the amendments could have been considered and discussed in good time and incorporated into the draft resolutions prepared by the Committee. Secondly, it was a fact that other representatives of the territories concerned, who cooperated systematically with the Special Committee, disagreed with the position the United States delegation had taken on the draft resolutions. For example, the Governor of Guam had expressed his support of the draft resolution on that Territory, and the Government of the Virgin Islands had informed the Special Committee that the Government supported the existing language of the draft resolution and considered that any further information should be presented to the Special Committee in 1993. Thirdly, in the light of the fact that the Special Committee had worked systematically over the past two years to improve its functions and had agreed on the procedure adopted, the fact that the United States was attempting at the last minute to alter a resolution approved by the Special Committee raised the question of whether its intention was not in fact to undermine the credibility of the Special Committee. His delegation believed that that was indeed the intention of the United States. In the light of those three factors, his delegation would be unable to support the amendments, regardless of their factual validity.

Draft resolution B I on American Samoa

Amendment to the third preambular paragraph (A/C.4/47/L.6, para. 1)

16. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Against: Iraq, Togo.

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Egypt, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

17. The amendment was adopted by 67 votes to 2, with 44 abstentions.

18. Ms. MCHAPI (Lesotho) said that she had not intended to participate in the vote.

Amendment to paragraph 1, second line (A/C.4/47/L.6, para. 2)

19. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Egypt, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Myanmar, Namibia, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

20. The amendment was adopted by 70 votes to none, with 41 abstentions.

Amendment to paragraph 2, second line (A/C.4/47/L.6, para. 3 (a))

21. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Against: Cuba, Iraq.

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mauritania, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United Republic of Tanzania, Zimbabwe.

22. The amendment was adopted by 71 votes to 2, with 38 abstentions.

Amendment to paragraph 2, fourth and fifth lines (A/C.4/47/L.6, para. 3 (b))

23. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

Against: Costa Rica, Cuba, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Mali, Nicaragua.

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Egypt, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Indonesia, Jamaica, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mexico, Myanmar, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Zimbabwe.

24. The amendment was adopted by 54 votes to 9, with 42 abstentions.

Amendment to paragraph 3 (A/C.4/47/L.6, para. 4)

25. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Against: Cuba, Iraq.

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mauritania, Myanmar, Namibia, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

26. The amendment was adopted by 72 votes to 2, with 35 abstentions.

Amendment to paragraph 5 (A/C.4/47/L.6, para. 5)

27. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mexico, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Against: Costa Rica, Cuba.

Abstaining: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Botswana, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Suriname, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, United Republic of Tanzania, Zimbabwe.

28. The amendment was adopted by 55 votes to 2, with 44 abstentions.

Amendment to new paragraph 5, first line (A/C.4/47/L.6, para. 6 (a))

29. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Chile, Colombia, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Myanmar, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Suriname, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

30. The amendment was adopted by 62 votes to none, with 47 abstentions.

Amendment to new paragraph 5, second and third lines (A/C.4/47/L.6, para. 6 (b))

31. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Colombia, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mexico, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Against: Cuba, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Mali.

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Jamaica, Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Myanmar, Namibia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Suriname, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

32. The amendment was adopted by 55 votes to 4, with 49 abstentions.

Draft resolution B VI on Guam

Amendment to paragraph 1, first line (A/C.4/47/L.7, para. 1 (a))

33. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bolivia, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

Against: Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Guyana, Iraq, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago.

Abstaining: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Suriname, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Zimbabwe.

34. The amendment was adopted by 61 votes to 7, with 38 abstentions.

Amendment to paragraph 1, fifth line (A/C.4/47/L.7, para. 1 (b))

35. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Against: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Guyana, Haiti, Iraq, Jamaica, Namibia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.

Abstaining: Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Ecuador, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

36. The amendment was adopted by 51 votes to 13, with 44 abstentions.

Amendment to paragraph 2 (A/C.4/47/L.7, para. 2)

37. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Against: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Guyana, Haiti, Iraq, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago.

Abstaining: Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mauritania, Myanmar, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Suriname, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

38. The amendment was adopted by 59 votes to 10, with 38 abstentions.

Amendment to paragraph 4 (A/C.4/47/L.7, para. 3)

39. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bolivia, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

Against: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Guyana, Haiti, Iraq, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago.

Abstaining: Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Suriname, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Zimbabwe.

40. The amendment was adopted by 60 votes to 9, with 37 abstentions.

Amendment to paragraph 5 (A/C.4/47/L.7, para. 4)

41. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bolivia, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

Against: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Guyana, Haiti, Iraq, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago.

Abstaining: Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Suriname, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

42. The amendment was adopted by 58 votes to 9, with 40 abstentions.

43. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that, with the adoption of the amendment to paragraph 5, the words "be recognized and respected" should be deleted from the third line.

44. It was so decided.

Draft resolution B X on the United States Virgin Islands

Amendment to the ninth preambular paragraph (A/C.4/47/L.8, para. 1)

45. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden,

Thailand, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela.

Against: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago.

Abstaining: Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Myanmar, Namibia, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Suriname, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

46. The amendment was adopted by 64 votes to 8, with 34 abstentions.

Amendment to paragraph 2 (A/C.4/47/L.8, para. 2)

47. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

Against: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Guyana, Haiti, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Mali, Trinidad and Tobago.

Abstaining: Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mexico, Myanmar, Namibia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Suriname, Togo, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

48. The amendment was adopted by 49 votes to 10, with 46 abstentions.

Amendment to paragraph 3 (A/C.4/47/L.8, para. 3 (a))

49. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

Against: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago.

Abstaining: Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Suriname, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Zimbabwe.

50. The amendment was adopted by 49 votes to 8, with 45 abstentions.

Amendment to paragraph 4 (A/C.4/47/L.8, para. 3 (b))

51. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bolivia, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

Against: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago.

Abstaining: Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Suriname, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

52. The amendment was adopted by 51 votes to 8, with 45 abstentions.

53. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that paragraph 5 should accordingly be renumbered as new paragraph 4.

Amendment to new paragraph 4, fifth line (A/C.4/47/L.8, para. 4 (a))

54. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bolivia, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, El Salvador, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Maldives, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

Against: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Guyana, Haiti, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago.

Abstaining: Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Suriname, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

55. The amendment was adopted by 54 votes to 9, with 44 abstentions.

Amendment to new paragraph 4, sixth line (A/C.4/47/L.8, para. 4 (b))

56. A recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, El Salvador, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Maldives, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

Against: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Costa Rica, Cuba, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago.

Abstaining: Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Ecuador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Suriname, Togo, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

57. The amendment was adopted by 48 votes to 10, with 47 abstentions.

58. The CHAIRMAN said that former paragraph 6 should accordingly be renumbered as new paragraph 5.

59. Mrs. TAHIR-KHELI (United States of America) thanked the members of the Committee for their support and looked forward the following year either to having the Special Committee adopt a factual resolution or to having the Committee adopt a resolution on the item by consensus.

60. Mrs. CASTRO de BARISH (Costa Rica) said that her delegation had voted against the amendment to the fourth and fifth lines of paragraph 2 of the draft resolution on American Samoa because it felt that it was very important for an administering Power to create employment opportunities for the people of a Territory. It had also voted against the deletion of former paragraph 5 of that same resolution because it believed that economic assistance was needed to alleviate the hurricane devastation in American Samoa.

61. It had voted against the amendment to the fifth line of paragraph 1 of the draft resolution on Guam because it had felt that the language of the Charter should have been retained.

62. With regard to the draft resolution on the United States Virgin Islands, it had abstained on the amendments to the ninth preambular paragraph, paragraph 2 and paragraph 3 because it had had doubts about them. It had

(Mrs. Castro de Barish, Costa Rica)

voted against the amendment to the sixth line of new paragraph 4 of that resolution because it believed that financial assistance should be provided as necessary.

63. Mr. DIARRA (Mali) said, with regard to the amendments to the draft resolution on American Samoa, that his delegation had voted against the deletion of the fourth and fifth lines of paragraph 2 because they had expressed the Charter obligation of the administering Power to promote the political, social and economic well-being of the people of the Territory. It had also voted against the deletion of the second and third lines of new paragraph 5 because Mali considered visiting missions to be the surest means of obtaining information in dependent Territories, especially when the administering Power had decided not to participate in the work of the Special Committee.

64. With regard to the amendments to the draft resolution on the United States Virgin Islands, it had voted against the amendment to paragraph 2 because the original paragraph 2 had expressed a constant principle espoused by the Special Committee that the people of Territories had the right to dispose of their own resources as they saw fit.

65. Mr. NASIER (Indonesia) said that his delegation has abstained on all the proposed amendments, not because of any objection in principle, but becuase it felt that the amendments proposed should have been submitted to the Special Committee, so that a consensus resolution could have been put before the Fourth Committee. He appealed to the administering Power to resume cooperation in future with the Special Committee.

66. The omnibus draft resolution on small Territories (A/47/23 (Part VI), chap. X, para. 25) as a whole, as amended, was adopted without a vote.

67. Mr. EVANS (United Kingdom), expressing satisfaction that the resolution had been adopted by consensus and included the amendments of the United States delegation, said that his delegation wished to speak in explanation of position on the Territories of Anguilla and Bermuda. The Committee had correctly recognized that there was no significant pressure for independence in Anguilla and that the Government of Anguilla had excluded the possibility of independence during its term of office. The United Kingdom had no doubt that it was discharging its obligations to the people of Anguilla in full.

68. It was inconceivable to the United Kingdom that the presence of military bases in Bermuda could in any way constitute an obstacle to the granting of independence, and it had no doubt that it was discharging its obligations to the people of Bermuda in full.

COMPLETION OF THE COMMITTEE'S WORK

69. The CHAIRMAN, after summarizing the work done by the Fourth Committee at the current session, said that there seemed to be consensus that the process

(The Chairman)

of decolonization should be brought to a conclusion, in fulfilment of the will of the international community and the objectives and responsibilities of the United Nations under the Charter and in fulfilment of the wishes and aspirations of the peoples and Territories to which General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) applied. Many delegations had stressed that a new stage was beginning in international relations and that the changes which were taking place would strengthen democracy, development, the well-being of peoples and cooperation among nations. The new international climate would surely enhance the process of decolonization, and it was to be hoped that it would culminate by the end of the United Nations Decade for the Elimination of Colonialism.

70. After an exchange of courtesies, in which Mr. PEERTHUN (Mauritius), Mr. AL-SHAMSI (United Arab Emirates), Mr. HASSANOV (Azerbaijan), Mr. MANZANARES VELOZ (Venezuela) and Mr. SERRANO (Spain) spoke on behalf of their respective groups of States, the CHAIRMAN declared that the Fourth Committee had concluded its work for the forty-seventh session.

The meeting rose at 6.40 p.m.